the methods of fish oil extraction in the Government Factory there and also to Malapai to acquaint himself with new methods of catching fish in large quantities by easy means. As the Research Officer could not be deputed as anticipated, the period had to be further extended by 3 months from 1st Vrischigam 1117. The desirability of deputing the Research Officer for training was pointed out by Mr. C. K. S. Moni, M.L.C., and the proposal was accepted by Government.

(*d*) Vide answer to (*c*) above.

(*e*) T. A. of the Research Officer Rs. 318—7—0. Contingent charges Rs. 298—10—9. Honorarium of Research Officer Rs. 846—12—0.

(*f*) A part of the work has been completed.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether he is working under the Diwan Peishkar?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* When can we expect the work entrusted with him to be completed?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is not completed now.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA—CONTRACT WITH

218. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have entered into a contract with the Supply Department, British India, regarding the supply of any articles which are available in Cochin?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether the head of the Supply Department had not been to Cochin and stayed there for a few days?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* There were several officers.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether our sister State of Travancore has not obtained a number of contracts with regard to the supply of articles when they stayed there?

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Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The simple question was whether the Government had entered into any contract and the answer was "no". I may assure you that vigorous action is being taken by the Government to get orders for the supply of goods.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Does it mean that the Government directly will not enter into a contract but will allow people in the State to execute them?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* I am stating the Government position in the matter. All steps are being taken to see that the State gets orders for the supply of articles.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Does it mean that the Government will have to enter into a contract or the Government will get orders for the people to supply?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Possible line of future action I cannot state.

OFFICERS RECRUITED TO THE A. R. P.—PARTICULARS OF

219. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state the number of officers recruited in the A. R. P. and the different ranks in which they are recruited and the pay each class of employees draw?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* A statement is appended. *(Appendix III).*

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether all the A.R.P. expenses will be refunded by the Government of India to our Government?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* I do not think the question arises at present. Nothing can be said now.

RULES UNDER THE PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT—INTERPRETATION OF A CERTAIN WORD

220. Mr. H. J. Walmesley *(Planters):* (*a*) Are Government aware that the Department of Industries and Commerce have declared that under the heading of "(2) Total number of persons employed" in Form IV under Rule 18 of the Payment of Wages Act, IV of 1113, the correct interpretation of the word "*Total*" is "Daily average";

(*b*) if answered in the affirmative, will Government pass orders necessary to correct this mistake in the drafting of Form IV?

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